



New Resource Guide From the Office of Child Care's Initiative To Improve the Social and Emotional Wellness of Children

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has swiftly and substantially affected the social and emotional health of children, especially those experiencing multiple hardships. As the COVID-19 pandemic has spread across the United States, many children are experiencing widespread disruptions in daily life. Young children are reacting to stress as their parent and caregiver routines change. Children may have strong feelings of fear, worry, sadness, and anger about the pandemic and related issues that affect behavior at home and in child care.

To address these issues, in December 2020 the Office of Child Care (OCC) announced its new initiative to further integrate social and emotional support strategies in child care's mixed-delivery system. Through this work, OCC will support expanding access to research-based social and emotional and trauma-responsive practices in child care across the country. The first activity of this initiative is the publication of [A Resource Guide for Developing Integrated Strategies To Support the Social and Emotional Wellness of Children](#), which highlights promising strategies and provides information about how some Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program grantees have already leveraged partnerships and funding to support implementation success.

The topics addressed in the resource guide are relevant to CCDF administrators in states, territories, and Tribes; those who work in infant-toddler specialist networks, quality initiatives, child care licensing agencies, and Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships; Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five (PDG B–5) grantees; Tribal leaders; and other child care stakeholders. The topics in the resource guide include:

- The benefits of integrating strategies to support the social and emotional wellness of children, families, and providers
- Implementation considerations
- Social and emotional wellness initiatives and delivery strategies
- The pyramid model for promoting social and emotional competence in infants and young children
- Infant and early childhood mental health consultation (IECMHC)
- Relationship-based care for infants and toddlers: A training-for-trainers professional development strategy
- Social and emotional wellness strategies for school-age children
- The integration of social and emotional supports as part of CCDF quality activities
- Examples of social and emotional development in state quality rating and improvement system standards
- The landscape of states' pyramid model implementation
- The landscape of IECMHC implementation
- Social and emotional wellness resources

- Federal technical assistance (TA).

This initiative will be implemented by staff working with CCDF program and PDG B–5 grantees in partnership with several of OCC's TA Centers, including the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (ECQA Center), National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment, Child Care State Capacity Building Center and its Infant and Toddler Specialist Network, and National Center on Tribal Early Childhood Development. In addition, OCC is partnering with the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (funded by the U.S. Department of Education) and the Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

For more information or to inquire about TA efforts to support your social and emotional wellness initiative, contact the ECQA Center at QualityAssuranceCenter@ecetta.info.



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